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## This Week in Wabash



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Hello, Wabash,

Happy Monday. Happy New Year. I hope you sent off 2021 safely and healthily. It certainly has been a cold way to start the new year. It's the type of freeze where you know it's not playing around. The snow which fell during the night still sticks on everything in sight, with little evidence of melting. But, since, at our house, we plan on keeping the Christmas tree up through the rest of January, it's still bright and warm enough inside.

[As I said last week](#), I was working on the [Top Stories of 2021](#) for last Friday's paper. It was a difficult process to narrow down an entire year's worth of stories in just 10 categories.

In first place, I had to put the COVID-19 pandemic. It was the story that dominated and influenced all others in so many ways.



In second place, I had to put Northfield softball team winning the state trophy. It was such a great moment for the community.



In third place was another obvious choice in that the 40-year trend of population loss has continued. Grow Wabash County CEO and president Keith Gillenwater and

Community Foundation of Wabash County executive director Patty Grant have been helping to lead the Imagine One 85 initiative focused on reversing this.

In fourth place was another long-term local issue coming to fruition in the Wabash County Jail's new facility. This is ongoing now.

Honestly, the rest of the list was more of a toss-up as to what place to put everything, but I did think those top four were so apparent that it didn't take much consideration on my part.

Anyway, as we start 2022, I wish you all good health. I hope you have a great rest of your day.

Best,  
Rob



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